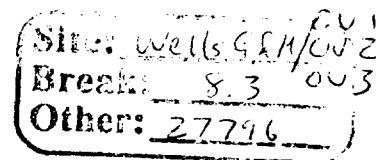


December 2001
Clarification of the August 1999
Five Year Review for the
Wells G&H Superfund Site



Name of Site: Wells G&H Superfund Site
Woburn, MA

Description of Site:

The Wells G & H Superfund Site covers approximately 330 acres in east Woburn, Middlesex County, Massachusetts. The Site includes the aquifer and land mass area located within the zone of contribution of the two former municipal drinking water wells known as Wells G & H. The boundaries of the Site are Route 128 to the north, Route 93 to the east, the Boston and Maine Railroad to the west, and Salem Street to the south. It is approximately 330 acres.

Wells G & H are located in the sand and gravel aquifer of the Aberjona River basin within the Mystic River watershed. The area surrounding the wells within the Site boundary is a mixed use area consisting of light industry, commercial businesses, industrial parks, residences, and recreational property. The area surrounding the Site is dominated by industrial and commercial property to the North, and residential property to the South.

The Aberjona River, which begins in Reading, Massachusetts, flows through the Site and eventually reaches the Mystic Lakes in Winchester. A substantial wetland area associated with the Aberjona River flood plain is located on either side of the River within the Site boundary.

On September 14, 1989, EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) that embodied the remedy selected for the first operable unit of the Site. The remedy associated with the 1989 ROD addresses remediation of contaminated groundwater, soil, and sludge found at the five properties identified as sources of contamination at the Site. These five properties define the first operable unit of the Site. The remedy also calls for a study of the central aquifer area (OU2) to determine the most effective way of addressing contamination in the central area. The cleanup of the central area of the Site, as well as the contamination found in the sediments of the Aberjona River (OU3), will be addressed under future RODs.

The next Five Year Review for the Site is scheduled to be completed by early August 2004.

Purpose of Addendum:

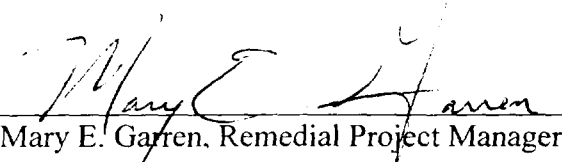
The purpose of this document is to clarify the protectiveness statement provided in the August 4, 1999 Five Year Review for the Site in response to the recent Resources for the Future study.

Revised Protectiveness Statement:

The remedy at OU1 is expected to be protective of human health and the environment upon completion, and in the interim, exposure pathways that could result in unacceptable risk are being controlled. Remedies have not been selected for the central area of the Site (OU2) or for the Aberjona River (OU3). At the time of the 1999 Five Year Review, the remedial investigations/feasibility studies for OU2 and OU3 were, and are still, ongoing.

The five properties within OU1 are all within remedial design or remedial action. Two groundwater pump and treat/UV-chemical oxidation systems are in their 9th year of operation at separate properties. A combined pump and treat/air sparging/ soil vapor extraction system is in its fourth year of operation at a third property. The combined system operated for three years using catalytic oxidation and recently converted over to treatment with carbon adsorption. Another soil vapor extraction system successfully remediated soil at the fourth property. The need for implementing groundwater remediation at that site is being assessed in light of the source removal effected by the soil vapor extraction. In addition to the continuation of these remedial actions, fund-lead remedial design continues at the fifth property owned by a non-settling party. Negotiations for take-over of the remedial design/remedial action by the responsible party are ongoing.

The combined remedial investigations/feasibility studies for the Central Area (OU2) and the Aberjona River (OU3) are scheduled to be completed by January and June of 2003, respectively.


Mary E. Garren, Remedial Project Manager

12-26-01
Date